



528TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE **(SPECIAL OPERATIONS) (AIRBORNE)**

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
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Colonel Lenny J. Kness **Commander** **Assumed Command on July 17, 2009**

Colonel Lenny J. Kness is a native of Chadwick, Ill., where he enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve in 1982 as a tank turret mechanic and graduated basic training as the Outstanding Soldier of the Cycle.

In 1987, Kness was commissioned in the Quartermaster Corps after earning his Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from Northeast Missouri State University, Kirksville, Mo. Later, he earned a Master of Science degree in Continuing Education from Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan.

His military education includes the Quartermaster Officer Basic and Advance courses, Airborne School, Air Assault School, Ranger School, Jumpmaster School, Parachute Rigger Course, Support Operations Course, Combined Arms Services Staff School, Command and General Staff College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.



Colonel Kness' previous duty assignments includes the 101st Sustainment Brigade, Fort Campbell, Ky., where he served as platoon leader, company executive officer and battalion S1; the 593rd Sustainment Brigade, Fort Lewis, Wash., as company commander; the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., as support operations officer, division material management chief and deputy brigade commander; Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii, as Joint Logistics Plans Branch chief; US Army Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, N.C., where he served as troop commander and XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, N.C., where he served as battalion commander. In addition, Kness has served with the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea and has deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Sea Signal and three tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

His individual achievement awards include the Bronze Star Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault badge, Rigger Badge and the Ranger Tab. Unit awards include the Joint Meritorious Unit Award with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Unit Commendation with Oak Leaf Cluster and Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation.